

**To:** Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Smith, Paula[Smith.Paula@epa.gov]; Gray, David[gray.david@epa.gov]; Kluesner, Dave[kluesner.dave@epa.gov]; Acevedo, Janie[Acevedo.Janie@epa.gov]; Harris-Bishop, Rusty[Harris-Bishop.Rusty@epa.gov]  
**From:** Zito, Kelly  
**Sent:** Mon 8/17/2015 7:07:52 PM  
**Subject:** R9 GKM Update - 8/17

**FYI - the staffing chart is for awareness, not to be distributed. Total R9 staff/contractors on the ground is: 34**

## **R9 RESPONSE REPORT – GOLD KING MINE**

August 17, 2015

**Comprehensive Community Outreach continues with 5 Region 9 CICs in the Farmington ICP traveling daily to various Navajo Chapter Houses for scheduled meetings with local residents. regarding EPA field work, sampling results, claims processes and water/ag deliveries** On 8/15 a 5 hour joint chapter meeting was held in Nenahnezad with 200 – 250 in attendance including the NN Vice President. On 8/16 meetings were held at the Mexican WaterChapter (25 in attendance) and the Guudiahi Chapter (40 in attendance).

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**No meetings are scheduled for today.** They will resume 8/18 at the Beclabito Chapter.

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**On 8/15 EPA released additional water quality data from Aug. 7 to Aug. 11, 2015, on the San Juan River between Farmington and Shiprock, New Mexico.**

**Data can be found here:**<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine/gold-king-mine-data-august-15-2015>

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**EPA Region 9 continues to collect and analyze Water Quality along the San Juan River in the Navajo Nation at 11 monitoring sites. As of 8/15, sampling efforts expanded into Lake Powell.** Lake Powell sampling efforts commenced on 8/15 in cooperation with the State of Utah, USGS and the NPS. Surface water, bottom water samples and sediment samples were collected at 6 locations on the San Juan Arm in Lake Powell. On Sunday 8/16, the sampling team collected samples from 5 more locations at the main stem of Lake Powell between Dangling Rope and the Glen Canyon Dam.

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**On 8/14 the State of Utah lifted their advisories for Utah Crop Irrigation and Livestock Watering** – see link: [State of Utah Lifts Advisories for Utah Crop Irrigation and Livestock Watering](#)

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**On 8/14 Press Release from the City of Durango announced that the City had resumed pumping raw water** for water drinking water treatment and distribution after independent

sampling resultssupported such a decision.

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**On 8/14 the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) lifted the ban on the use of private domestic water wells.**

### **Region 9 Field Presence and Office Response Support**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>
<b>Durango, CO AC</b>	Mark McIntyre Region 10 PIO	PIO
	Robert Wise	OSC
	Steve Calanog	OSC
	David Yogi	LNO
<b>Farmington, NM ICP</b>	Bret Moxley	OSC
	Dan Heister (R10)	OSC
	Maggie Waldon	OSC
	Peter Husby	Environmental Unit
	ATSDR Toxicologist	Risk Communication with CICs
	EPA Contractor (total #10)	START and ERRS
	USCG PST (total #8)	USCG Pacific Strike Team
<b>Navajo Nation</b>	Wilson Yee	Community Involvement
	Linda Reeves	Community Involvement
	Amanda Pease	Community Involvement
	Clancy Tenley (Window Rock)	Liaison
	Zizi Searles	Community Involvement
	Alejandro Diaz (enroute Monday)	Community Involvement
<b>Page, AZ Division</b>	Tom Dunkelman	OSC
	Bill Robberson	Liaison
	EPA Contractor (total #1)	START

### **R9 ON-THE-GROUND PRESENCE: August 16, 2015**

**Total Daily Tally: OSCs 6; EU: 1 ; LNO 2; PIO 1; CIC 5; Technical personnel/contractors: 11; USCG PST: 8**

### **Farmington Incident Command Post General Operations**

Daily operations are focused around gathering water and sediment samples from 11 designated

locations in the San Juan River. The Glen Canyon ICP completed surface water and sediment sampling of Lake Powell at 11 locations, from the Glen Canyon Dam to the San Juan River delta.

Water trucks will be continuing to deliver water to designated locations to address Navajo agricultural and livestock needs. The Unified Command is also delivering feed for livestock. Water is now staged at 13 locations throughout the potentially impacted chapters of Navajo Nation. The tank capacity at each of these locations is 16,000 gallons. BIA provided the tanks and we are filling them with municipal water from Napi, previously from Bloomfield. Farmington ICP has recently undertaken a sampling effort to characterize the water in the tanks.

### **Sampling Activities by R9 and Others in Navajo Nation and Arizona**

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San Juan River Surface Water & Sediment Sampling (R9):

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Monitoring locations: EPA Region 9 has established 11 monitoring locations along the San Juan River. These are the same locations used by Navajo EPA Water Quality so there is available historical data for comparison. Farmington ICP has placed 8 SONS and Telemetry devices 8/15 to do real time data logging of water parameters including pH, conductivity, and turbidity.

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Surface water sampling: On 8/15 EPA released additional water quality data from Aug. 7 to Aug. 11, 2015, on the San Juan River between Farmington and Shiprock, New Mexico.

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San Juan River Area Drinking Water Sampling (NTUA): The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority sampled 3 wells at Montezuma Creek and at the intake of the Mexican Hat surface water plant. Samples were collected for the full suite of drinking water regulated IOCs, VOCs and SOCs. Discussions are underway to confirm sampling site locations for mapping purposes.

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Lake Powell Area Surface Water & Possible Sediment Sampling (R9 + BOR + ADEA + NGS):

A second ICP was established on August 13 at the National Park Service Glen Canyon Headquarters. The focus of this ICP will be sampling Lake Powell as well as community outreach. Coordination between the EPA and Bureau of Reclamation, USGS, City of Paige, and Arizona Department of Environmental Quality has been established at this location. On 8/15 EPA and START conducted sampling of the San Juan Arm of Lake Powell. On 8/16 the sampling team collected samples from the main stem of Lake Powell between Dangling Rope and the Glen Canyon Dam.

### **R9 Navajo Nation Community Assistance and Outreach Activities**

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Navajo Nation Gov: Daily communications with government representatives to coordinate on water sampling, community outreach and other response efforts. Navajo President's office is

convening a meeting with Navajo EPA on Monday 8/17 to discuss neighboring states lifting of water advisories and reportedly evaluating a similar action by Navajo Nation.

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Congressional Meeting: Congressman Rob Bishop will be visiting Glen Canyon on Monday. This trip was scheduled prior to the Gold King Mine incident and will provide an opportunity for the NPS and EPA to provide an update. OSC Dunkelman and LNO Robberson met with Congresswoman Kirkpatrick (AZ) and staff 8/14 in two separate sessions.

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Community Meetings: Community Outreach Branch at Farmington ICP continues to grow in personnel and will continue outreach with members of Navajo nation. Daily Chapter Meetings are happening with CIC support.

## **R9 Coordination with Federal, State and Local Governmental Entities**

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Joint Region 6,8 and 9 daily Regional Response Team calls: EPA Region 9 is hosting daily incident specific update calls with all three RRTs. Federal and State agencies from all three regions are in attendance to share situational information and explore additional opportunities for collaboration.

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